



STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY
LT. GOVERNOR

March 2, 2012

Dear Parent,

Over the past few weeks, together with lawmakers, the Michigan Departments of Treasury and Education, an independent review team, and other school and community leaders, we have been working with your local school officials to address the financial crisis at the Highland Park Schools.

Following the recommendation of that review team, I have reappointed Jack Martin as emergency manager. Jack is absolutely the right person for this post. He has a clear understanding of the crisis facing the district, and has the background, expertise and passion to address it. He will also ensure open and ongoing communications with you and your kids, school district officials, community members, and the media.

The opportunity for kids to complete this school year was the top concern we heard from HPS parents. To help this happen, the Michigan Legislature passed a bill that I recently signed enabling this option. Just today, the Highland Park Schools Emergency Manager Jack Martin, Detroit Public Schools Emergency Manager Roy Roberts, and State Treasurer Andy Dillon signed an official agreement to partner with and offer assistance to HPS for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year. **For your kids, this agreement means they can finish the school year in their same classrooms with their same teachers if you choose.**

I also understand that it is important to know and consider other available options for your student. Part of this new law also offers "schools of choice" opportunities to Highland Park families. If you choose, your child may transfer to another district or school that has available space. You'll find a list of schools with openings in the area attached to this letter and available online at www.michigan.gov/highlandparkschools.

With the reappointment of Jack, he now serves as your main resource for the latest information and updates regarding Highland Park Schools. He can be reached at:

Mr. Jack Martin, Emergency Manager
School District of the City of Highland Park
20 Bartlett
Highland Park, MI 48203
Phone: 313-957-3000
E-mail: martini@hipark.k12.mi.us

We know this is a tough and challenging situation, but we care deeply about the future of your child and every Highland Park student. Standing and working together will help ensure that we can continue to collectively protect your student and their educational opportunities.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns or comments regarding this or any other state-related matter, please do not hesitate to contact my office at 517-335-7858.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Snyder".

Rick Snyder
Governor